

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously presented) The sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the manual sheet supply unit supplies the special sheet and the ordinary sheet in a horizontal direction, and the conveying member conveys the special sheet and the ordinary sheet in a vertical direction.

4. (Currently amended) A sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus comprising:

a manual sheet supply unit to supply a special sheet and an ordinary sheet, wherein the special sheet is stiffer and smaller in size than the ordinary sheet;

a conveying member to convey the special sheet and the ordinary sheet supplied from the manual sheet supply unit toward an image forming process unit; and

a sheet guide provided between the manual sheet supply unit and the conveying member, having special sheet ribs to control both sides of the special sheet that is inserted and guided by the special sheet ribs, and to guide the ordinary sheet by passing the ordinary sheet on an upper surface of the special sheet ribs, wherein the sheet guide further has a pressing member between the special sheet ribs that supports a side prevents the bending of the central portion of the ordinary sheet by pressing the back of the central portion of the ordinary sheet with elastic force, and descends by a weight of the special sheet when the special sheet is inserted between the special sheet ribs.

5. (Previously presented) The sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the pressing member is made of a polyester film.

6-7.. (Canceled).

8. (Previously presented) The sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the manual sheet supply unit supplies the special sheet and the ordinary sheet in a horizontal direction, and the aligning rollers convey the special sheet and the ordinary sheet in a vertical direction.

9. (Currently amended) A sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus comprising:

a manual sheet supply unit to supply a special sheet and an ordinary sheet on a manual sheet supply tray, wherein the special sheet is stiffer and smaller in size than the ordinary sheet;

aligning rollers to align leading edges of the special sheet and the ordinary sheet supplied from the manual sheet supply unit and convey in the image forming direction; and

a sheet guide provided between the manual sheet supply unit and the aligning rollers, having special sheet ribs to control both sides of the special sheet and to guide the ordinary sheet by passing the ordinary sheet on upper surfaces of the special sheet ribs, wherein the sheet guide further has a pressing member between the special sheet ribs that ~~supports a side prevents the bending of the central portion of the ordinary sheet by pressing the back of the central portion of the ordinary sheet with elastic force, and descends by a by an empty weight~~ of the special sheet when the special sheet is inserted between the special sheet ribs.

10. (Previously presented) The sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the pressing member is made of a polyester film.

11. (Previously presented) The sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the special sheet is a postcard.

12. (Previously presented) The sheet feeder in an image forming apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the special sheet is a postcard.

13. (New) A sheet feeding method for an image forming apparatus, comprising:

supplying a special sheet and an ordinary sheet on a manual sheet supply tray, wherein the special sheet is stiffer and smaller in size than the ordinary sheet;

aligning, by way of aligning rollers, leading edges of the special sheet and the ordinary sheet supplied in the supplying step, to convey in the image forming direction;

controlling and guiding, by way of a sheet guide provided between the manual sheet supply tray and the aligning rollers, the sheet guide having special sheet ribs to control both sides of the special sheet for guiding the ordinary sheet by passing the ordinary sheet on upper surfaces of the special sheet ribs, the sheet guide further having a pressing member provided between the special sheet ribs; and

preventing the bending of the central portion of the ordinary sheet by pressing the back of the central portion of the ordinary sheet with elastic force by way of the pressing member and descending by an empty weight of the special sheet when the special sheet is inserted between the special sheet ribs.